

In the Claims

Claims 1-15, 17-21 and 35-49 are pending in the application, Claim 16 was previously canceled. Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's restriction of Claims 22-34, which were withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 13 and added new claims 35-49. A copy of all claims in this case, including mark-ups of amended claims showing changes, is provided below along with the status of each claim.

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1. (Amended) An equipment information system comprising:  
an equipment database;  
a database manager operable to access and interrogate the equipment database;  
a table maintenance module operable to perform system maintenance on the equipment database through an interface;  
an inquiry module operable to query the equipment database through an interface;  
an inventory module operable to store and change data in the equipment database through an interface, and to allocate an order;  
a transportation module operable to record a transportation information related to the transport of equipment from a central inventory location to one of a plurality of a service centers ~~center~~ using the equipment database and through an interface; and

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an installations/removals module operable to record the installation and removal of equipment within an area serviced by one of the plurality of service centers using the equipment database through an interface.

2. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 1, further comprising:

a stored procedure operable to access the data in the equipment database.

3. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 1, further comprising:

a stored procedure operable to change the data in the equipment database.

4. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 2, wherein the stored procedure is executed periodically.

5. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 2, wherein the stored procedure is executed on-demand through a graphical user interface.

6. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 2, wherein the execution of the stored procedure is initiated through an external interface.

7. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 2, wherein the execution of the stored procedure is initiated through a second stored procedure

8. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 1,  
further comprising:

an external interface operable to exchange information with  
the equipment database.

9. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 1,  
further comprising:

a stored procedure operable to automatically order  
equipment and to store the order in the equipment  
database.

10. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 1,  
wherein the equipment database includes data organized into  
tables.

11. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 1,  
wherein the database manager and the equipment database are  
provided at a server and the modules are provided as an  
executable at a client.

12. (Original) The equipment information system of Claim 1,  
further comprising:

an allocation stored procedure operable to automatically  
allocate equipment through a stock number based on the  
receipt of an order.

13. (Twice Amended) A method for managing equipment information comprising:

storing attributes of a piece of equipment in an equipment information database that indicates the type of the equipment when the equipment is received at a central inventory location;

adding an indication in the equipment information database that the equipment is available inventory;

receiving an order for equipment needed at one of a plurality of a service centers center that is of the same type as the equipment;

allocating inventory to the order based on available inventory in the equipment information database;

shipping the equipment for the order to one of the plurality of the service centers center;

storing shipment attributes in the equipment information database related to shipment of the piece of equipment from the central inventory location to one of the plurality of the service centers center;

installing the equipment in an area serviced by the one of plurality of service centers where the equipment was shipped;

updating the equipment information database to indicate that the equipment has been installed and further to indicate the area where the equipment was installed and the one of the plurality of service centers associated with the area;

removing the equipment;

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updating the equipment information database that the equipment has been removed and updating a removal information related to reasons for the removal; and shipping the equipment to the central inventory location.

14. (Original) The method for managing equipment information of Claim 13, wherein the equipment is a transformer.

15. (Original) The method for managing equipment information of Claim 13, wherein the attributes of the equipment includes serial number and manufacturer.

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16. (Previously Canceled)

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17. (Original) The method for managing equipment information of Claim 13, wherein the storing attributes of a piece of equipment includes using a bar code scanner.

18. (Original) The method for managing equipment information of Claim 13, wherein the order was received from an external system.

19. (Original) The method for managing equipment information of Claim 13, further comprising:  
deallocating the order after allocating the order.

20. (Original) The method for managing equipment information of Claim 13, wherein the order was received from an automatically generated order.

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21. (Original) The method for managing equipment information of Claim 13, further comprising:  
filling the order after allocating the order.

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22-34. (Withdrawn)

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35. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 1, wherein the area where the equipment is installed is further defined as a geographical area serviced by one of the plurality of service centers.

36. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 35, wherein each of the plurality of service centers is associated with a different geographical area.

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37. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 36, wherein the installation/removal modules are further operable to record an area information associated with the geographical area and further operable to record a service center information related to the service center associated with the geographical area where the equipment is installed and removed.

38. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 36, wherein the installation/removal modules are further operable to record an installation information specific to placing the equipment in service.

39. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 38, wherein the equipment is further defined as a transformer and wherein the installation information includes a transformer wiring information related to wiring the transformer placed in service in the geographic area.

40. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 36, wherein the installation/removal modules are further operable to record a removal information related to reason for removing the equipment from service.

41. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 1, wherein the equipment is further defined as capacitors.

42. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 1, wherein the equipment is further defined as switch gear.

43. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 1, wherein the transportation information related to the transport of equipment further includes a status information related to the status of equipment being shipped between the central inventory and one of the plurality of service centers.

44. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 43, wherein the transportation information further includes driver planning information.

45. (New) The equipment information system of Claim 44, wherein the transportation information further includes weight information related to the weight of the equipment to be shipped, a shipment time information related to the time for shipment of the equipment, a lading information related to bills of lading and loading documents for the equipment to be shipped.

46. (New) The method of Claim 13, wherein the area where the equipment is installed is further defined as a geographical area serviced by one of the plurality of service centers.

47. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein each of the plurality of service centers is associated with a different geographical area.

48. (New) The method of Claim 47, wherein the installation/removal modules are further operable to record an area information associated with the geographical area and further operable to record a service center information related to the service center associated with the geographical area where the equipment is installed and removed.

49. (New) The method of Claim 13, wherein the shipment attributes stored in the equipment information database include:

a status information related to the status of equipment being shipped between the central inventory and one of the plurality of service centers;

a driver planning information;

a weight information related to the weight of the equipment to be shipped;

a shipment time information related to the time for shipment of the equipment; and

a document information related to bills of lading and loading documents for the equipment to be shipped.

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